

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 098481
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 098481

STADIS////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EMIN, ITC

SUBJECT:TIN: CONSIDERATION OF A VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION
TO THE ITC BUFFER STOCK

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 2643

1. THE DEPARTMENT IS NOW ENGAGED IN AN EXTENSIVE INTERNAL STUDY TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE US SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE ITC BUFFER STOCK. IF THE STUDY DETERMINES THAT A CONTRIBUTION WOULD BE IN THE US INTEREST, THE DEPARTMENT WILL SEEK TO GAIN SUPPORT FROM OTHER CONCERNED AGENCIES (TREASURY, COMMERCE, ETC) TO DEVELOP A COORDINATED ADMINISTRATION POSITION FOR SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS WHOSE APPROVAL WOULD BE NECESSARY.

2. CENTRAL TO THE PRESENT STUDY WILL BE A DETERMINATION
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OF WHAT COLLATERAL BENEFITS THE US COULD HOPE TO OBTAIN RELATIVE TO ITS CONTRIBUTION. THESE BENEFITS COULD INCLUDE A) CONTRIBUTIONS BY OTHER CONSUMERS; B) INCREASING THE OVERALL SIZE OF THE BUFFER STOCK BY REQUIRING THAT ALL CONTRIBUTIONS BE MADE AT THE MARKET PRICE RATHER THAN THE FLOOR PRICE AS IS NOW THE CASE; C) AGREEMENT THAT EXPORT CONTROLS BE IMPLEMENTED ONLY WHEN THE FLOOR PRICE

HAS BEEN BREACHED; AND D) SPECIFIC ACTION BY PRODUCERS
TO ELIMINATE IMPEDIMENTS TO NEW TIN PRODUCTION SUCH AS

MALAYIA'S ONEROUS TAXES ON TIN AND ITS RESTRICTIVE POLICY
ON THE ISSUANCE OF MINING LEASES. IN ANY NEGOTIATION FOR
A US CONTRIBUTION, WE WOULD PLAN TO TAKE A VERY FIRM
POSITION FOR PRODUCER CONCESSIONS IN THIS LATTER AREA.

3. UNDER EXISTING ITC PROCEDURES THE COMMITTEE ON
DEVELOPMENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR IDENTIFYING IMPEDIMENTS TO
PRODUCTION AND RECOMMENDING MEANS TO ELIMINATE SUCH
IMPEDIMENTS. UNFORTUNATELY, THAT COMMITTEE HAS BEEN
INACTIVE DURING THE PAST YEAR. WE HAVE ENCOURAGED THE
ACTIVATION OF THAT COMMITTEE AND IT WILL BE MAKING A REPORT
TO THE ECONOMIC AND PRICE REVIEW PANEL IN JUNE AND THE
COUNCIL IN JULY. HOPEFULLY, THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT
IN THE NEAR FUTURE WILL UNDERTAKE AN IN-DEPTH SURVEY OF
IMPEDIMENTS TO NEW TIN PRODUCTION WHICH WILL FOCUS ATTENTION
ON MALAYSIA, BOLIVIA AND OTHER PRODUCER COUNTRIES WHICH
HAVE IMPEDED NEW TIN PRODUCTION.

4. IN THE FUTURE, PLEASE SEND INFORMATION COPIES OF ALL
MESSAGES ON TIN TO AMEMBASSY LONDON FOR THE US PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ITC.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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